GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:383
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000
RISE IN PRICES OF ITEMS UNDER PDS
SHIVAJI MANE;SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently increased the prices of foodgrains issued through Public Distribution System for both Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line families;

(b) if so, the details thereof, item-wise;

(c) whether the persons belonging to the poor and middle class families have been badly affected by hike;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to reconsider its decision; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c), (d) & (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d) & (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.383 FOR ANSWER IN THE LOK SABHA ON 20-04-2000.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice distributed under Public Distribution System(PDS) have been revised w.e.f. 1.4.2000 as detailed below:-

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	Rate for Below Poverty Line(BPL) Families	Rate for Above Poverty Line (APL) Familes
Wheat	450	900
Rice		
(i) Common	590	
(ii) Grade `A`	590	1180
(iii) Common Rice for families Above Poverty Line (APL) applicable to J&K, H.P., N.E. States, Sikkim and hilly areas of U.P.	1135	

(c) For wheat and rice, the BPL families will have a net saving in their family foodbudget since the monthly quota has been raised from 10 kg.to 20 kg. with effect from 1.4.2000.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) According to the estimates, the revision in the prices along with doubling the entitlement of BPL families will effectively transfer 41% more resources to the poor. Government feels that these measures advance the cause of poor.